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September 2, 2010

California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4,
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Docket No. 07-AFC-5

Re: Comments on PMPD on the BrightSource Energy Application for ISEGS

Hi,

I am writing to comment on your proposed decision on the BrightSource Energy application for the Ivanpah Valley Solar Electric project. I am a first generation immigrant and have been living in the US for the past 12 years. I have developed considerable love and affection for the wild beauty of the American Outdoors, and especially for the rugged beauty of the American Southwest which includes the beautiful Ivanpah Valley.

I have been following (with mixed feelings and increasing alarm) the recent rush for developing solar projects in the desert southwest of the US under the increased public demand for immediate alternate energy sources in the wake of the increased awareness of global warming among the general populace.

I am not going to re-count the entire laundry list of my reasons for opposing the application from BrightSource energy, but will summarize my objections as follows:

- Large scale solar is not the answer because rooftop solar is the better alternative and will out-compete and make large scale solar obsolete in the very near future.
- Considering the above, the rush for large scale solar is merely going to provide a temporary reprieve to the established energy companies rather than serve the public interest in the demand for alternate energy sources.
- Once the inevitable market forces make large scale solar obsolete, what we will be left with is a totally destroyed desert ecosystem.
- Even if my above three points are to be denied, the current way in which the existing environmental concerns are being sidelined in the relocation efforts mandated by the California Endangered Species Act make any approval of this project unacceptable and unlawful at this time.

I urge you to refrain from haste in giving the BrightSource application a hasty approval, lest we lose an irreplaceable part of our ecological, national and global heritage, and also fail in our role as stewards of a complex and fragile ecosystem.

Sincerely,

Arvind Baddepudi
Desert lover, biodiversity advocate, and concerned global citizen.

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